

VZCZCXRO8294
PP RUEHROV
DE RUEHKH #1563/01 1841620
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
P 031620Z JUL 06
FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3522
INFO RUCNFUR/DARFUR COLLECTIVE
RHMFISS/CJTJF HOA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 KHARTOUM 001563

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 07/02/2016
TAGS: [PREL](#) [KPKO](#) [SOCI](#) [AU](#) [UN](#) [SU](#)
SUBJECT: MINNI MINAWI: ENCOURAGES DPA SUPPORT, CRITICIZES
SLOW DPA IMPLEMENTATION, SEEKS U.S. VERIFIERS

Classified By: P/E Chief E. Whitaker, Reason: Section 1.4 (b) and (d)

11. (C) Summary: During three days of a visit by S/CRS Officer Wilson, SLM leader Minni Minawi said he was speaking to villagers to encourage their support for the Darfur Peace Agreement (DPA), criticized AMIS for slow implementation of the DPA, asked for U.S. DPA security arrangements verifiers, said he was drawing up lists of names to fill DPA commissions, and noted his interest in maintaining humanitarian access and deriving immediate benefits to anchor local support for the DPA. He also said that the security situation had improved over the past month with the exception of incidents near the border with Chad, for which he blamed Chad's efforts to destabilize rebel-held areas of Sudan to keep refugee camps stocked with potential recruits. Minni also stated that he planned to travel to Cairo, Asmara, and Khartoum during the coming week to prepare for the next steps forward. End summary.

12. (C) (Note: the following account was relayed from North Darfur State by S/CRS Officer Tod Wilson based on his June 28) 30 visit to Dar el Salaam, Darfur. End note.)

(Begin account)

I spent the past three days with Minni in Dar el Salaam (SE North Darfur) and surrounding villages. Minni is in decent spirits and was very happy after the SLM/A rally in Shangil Tobaiya where Minni talked publicly to a crowd of 1500 to 3000 in front of local and national press as well as an El Jazeera stringer for more than 45 minutes. He also planned to speak in Ed al Baeda and several other villages; he is concerned about the pace of implementation or lack thereof of the Darfur Peace Agreement (DPA), and has started to become proactive in getting the message out in his areas of control.

His main issues involved the lack of AMIS implementation. Specifically, he is displeased that there has been no verification of positions, that the AU and AMIS are still treating the non-signatories like those who have signed, and that there is no effort to counter those against the DPA. He asked when the U.S. verifiers were going to arrive and requested that the S/CRS officer take a personal interest in getting verification started. Minni indicated that all his people for the CFC, JHFU, etc. had been nominated to AMIS. He also said that his advance team in Khartoum was working on names to nominate for the DPA commissions and committees.

We also talked about the provisions in the DPA for his assuring humanitarian access safety in his Areas of Control (AOC). He is prepared to talk to AMIS, UN OCHA, and UNMIS in El Fasher about setting up the process for coordination and designation of humanitarian supply routes in his AOC. He will set up meetings early next week. On the phone to UN OCHA and UNMIS, he complained that the supplies they were taking to Bir Masa (Mini's hometown) were not being

distributed to the IDPs, but being stored and used by militias. He urged them to use the mechanisms set up in the DPA and the new humanitarian coordinator for his areas. In regard to Suleiman Jamous, he charged that he was also misusing supplies and was against the DPA for personal benefit.

He is anxious for the people in his areas to see some benefit in humanitarian access, and reconstruction. He walked me past the hospital where he said his father died * having received little to no treatment for diabetes in the Swedish-built facility that has never been staffed by the Sudanese Government. ACF recently pulled out, and did not tell anyone when it would return to staff the clinic. He is concerned that reconstruction through a multi-donor trust fund would hold reconstruction up. He asked if the U.S. could start roads or something that the people saw as a benefit from the DPA.

The village had a large school that looked like it could use some refurbishment, and perhaps book bags and other school materials. Minni said the town and surrounding villages had a population of around 130k to 140k. The main road from Shangil Tobaiya to El Fasher could be raised (with crushed stone and a lot of labor) to counter the bogs from the rain. Our detour was close to 10 kms to get around the mud left from the rain last night. We do not need to build roads, but there certainly could be some enhancements made that would bring jobs to the area. There are also new IDPs from the south in Dar el Salaam that Minni says are left under-attended. He was very interested in seeing radio coming to Darfur, as the camp listens to radio every night.

On security, Minni indicated that things had quieted down and

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certainly were below the levels of last month. This is in line with reporting from UNMIS and AMIS. He indicated that there was no fighting in 90 percent of his area, even though we traveled with 60 to 90 armed fighters when we left Dar el Salaam. The remaining problem area is in the northwest. He believes problems there are instigated by Chad to keep the refugee camps populated in order to recruit for its army. He indicated that JEM is not a major problem. It has split into three groups, pro-DPA, anti-DPA (most of whom were resorting to looting for personal gain), and those elements that have rejoined the Chadian opposition. Libya wants the JEM to be part of the DPA. They like Khalil, but will let him go at the next leadership conference to get the JEM into the DPA. He looks at Wahid as having very few options, and does not understand why he did not sign the DPA. He sees no military advantage or leverage for Wahid, other than using the Fur as a political lever, leaving himself few options other than spoiler. He is confused as to why the AU continues to provide him and his men services (helo flights, etc.)

Minni plans to return to El Fasher to arrange meetings with those mentioned above. He is also trying to take two short trips to Egypt to shore up his relations with Cairo and then on to Eritrea. He indicated that Eritrea has told him to close his offices there. Minni stated that Eritrea wants to conclude the Beja talks first and wanted him to hold out longer in Abuja to give them more leverage in the East negotiations. However, he is having trouble getting an aircraft from Cairo. He plans on going to Khartoum on July 5.

(End account)
HUME